



Surrey Group
NEWSLETTER

Spring 2003



Tanners Hatch Youth Hostel, Sunday 12th January 2003



Items for Newsletter

The Newsletter is published three times a year, Spring, Summer and Autumn.

Reports of past events, letters, and other items should be sent to the Editor one month before the publication date of the next Newsletter. Preferably they should be sent by email or typed, but manuscript will be accepted.

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Editorial

This is my first time acting as the editor of the Newsletter and I have changed the format! I am hoping that this A4 layout will provide more space for text and pictures and allow for a slightly larger typeface so that the older ones among the group will find it easier to read. As you will see I have changed the cover and the Programme page. I intend to publish a different "front page" photograph with each issue and so would welcome prints that you think might be suitable. All prints will be returned after I have scanned them into the data base. Given the A4 portrait layout of the cover page, ideally the prints also should be in portrait and not landscape format. The Programme page will now be a loose page (technically known as a tip-in) and I am using a new layout for the event information.

Do let me have your comments on the new style; the Newsletter is published to meet your needs and not those of the editor.

Peter Waterhouse

Help needed

In the White Rose Hundred, 24-26 May, we will be operating the checkpoint at Carlton Village Hall from 6.00pm, 24th to 4.00am, 25th. This checkpoint is 38.9 miles along the route and so is not the breakfast stop.

If you can help please get in touch with Janet Chapman (01276 65149).

Carlton, GR 067847, is at the entrance to Cotherdale which is off Wensleydale just south of Leyburn. We are told that there is a pub nearby.

Ray Jolley 1933-2002

Many who took part in Surrey Group events will have fond memories of Ray, who helped at so many LDW and MABAC events. In earlier years, he used to be on the platform at the Punchbowl with gear for sale, at a discount, from the sports shop he used to manage in Aldershot. Later, he used to help at checkpoints, and he joshed and encouraged walkers on, sometimes failing to get the numbers. This perturbed a certain other marshal, who used to urge him to stick to his job and he always referred to her as Miss Whiplash.

He was always kind, and I remember when I was out on my bike and had forgotten my money, coming across Ray, marshalling on the Masters and Maidens Marathon. He gave me some of their drink and also shared with me his own food, to give me the energy to get home.

Although he had mobility problems for some years - he had 4 new hips - his death was unexpected and he died after a short illness in December.

240 people attended his funeral, and following his request for informal clothes, people attended in running shorts and Aldershot Town football gear, another of his great loves. MABAC have planted an oak tree (*Quercus Pendunculata*) in his memory in Windsor Park, 300m on from Blacknest Gate. He will be missed, especially his cheery "what kept you so long then" as we came to his checkpoint. Our sympathy to his wife, Shirley.

Keith Chesterton

Ranmore Roundabout: 13th February

Nine intrepid walkers set off on the Ranmore Roundabout. It was a bitterly cold morning, but Dave soon had us puffing up a few hills and the fingers began to thaw. The scenery was splendid, although our feet needed plenty of attention due to very muddy paths and my boots soon became unrecognisable. We lunched in Shere and one of our party ate such a large portion of fish and chips that we wondered whether he would manage the hills. The sun shone as we left Shere and we had some lovely views and as promised there was less mud. It was a happy band of walkers that crossed the railway line and climbed gently up to Steer's Field. Many thanks Dave for a super walk.

Molly Groundsell



The 26th Winter Tanners: 12th Jan.

"Torrential rain, floods, snow, freezing winds, but not on the day of the Winter Tanners when it was blue sky all the way, albeit a little chilly at 7am"

I typed the above on Tuesday 7th January to cheer myself up. It was white outside and still snowing. Temperatures were well below zero. I needed 9 checkpoint marshals and only had 4. I was trying to get the route descriptions sent out, but entrants were using all methods to get applications in at the 11th hour, and I had barely begun to consider the algebra needed to work out how many pints of milk were needed to guarantee a satisfied walker.

OK I did not quite get the supplies right, but if its any consolation to those who missed their biscuit at Tanners Hatch, I've got so much milk that I'm trying to work out how to make cheese. However the weather was as glorious as my prediction, except that "a little chilly at 7am" was the acme of British understatement. With mines ten reported at nearby Redhill I have learnt that it is possible to have hypothermia and hyperactiv-

ity at the same time as the stream, sometimes flood, of on-the-day entries kept us busy.

For admiring the views it was the perfect day, for walking, running and jogging it was as near ideal as you can get in January with the dreaded mud rock-hard. However, conditions under foot were, in places, better suited to the talents of Torvill and Dean. I hope all those who practiced horizontal locomotion, or met with other inanimate objects too suddenly have recovered from their cuts and bruises. For the marshals, it was a test of how many layers of clothing you could put on and still move. I have just got back to a normal temperature and I hope they have.

My thanks to all the marshals who gave up a lot of time to help, to those who volunteered early on and those who came at short notice to make it all work. Especially thanks to John Wescott for all his advice and for preparing a route which received unanimous praise.

Barry Harrison

Surrey Inns Kanter: 1st Jan 2003

Let no one be surprised, organising an event for the first time is a daunting proposition even when there is a wealth of experience to draw on. So it was for my first Surrey Inns Kanter. On the map, I had devised a 20 and 12 mile route but in reality these turned out to be 23 and 13 miles. When I modified the route I undershot and ended up with an 18 and 12 miles route.

On the day the problem was water levels. I checked out the route between dawn and the opening of the Hall and the towpath appeared to be usable nearly all the way (allowing for some shallow wading). As it turned out, the water level rose during the day and some people had to use the "escape route" along the road.

Forty seven people, and one dog, braved the elements. Half completed the long route and half the short, including the dog. My thanks to John Lay, Brian Haigh and Peter Bull for their able assistance.

Report and results are available on www.top-flight.com/SIK.htm.

Jon Moore

35th Punchbowl Marathon

2nd Feb. 2003

We had several phone calls during the middle of the week asking whether we were still going to run the event on Sunday. Fortunately for us we did not suffer the atrocious conditions that swept across the Northern Home Counties and other areas during Thursday and Friday, although we had snow it quickly thawed and was nearly all gone by the weekend. We ended up with 129 pre-entries and luckily, because we had a bright start to the day, we were very pleased to welcome a further 70 on Sunday morning.

Two weeks previously, 9 marshals, Ann Sayer, Ashley Saunders, Molly Groundsell, Elizabeth Bryan, Peter Saw, Shirley Robertson, Margaret Ackers, Elaine Edwards and John Lay walked out the 25 mile short route in 8hrs. 32mins. Two days later, Jon Moore jogged out the 30 mile long route across Elstead Marshes in the same time. (However, he did not have to spend 20 minutes freeing stray sheep that had got tangled in a blackberry bush!)

Its always a bit of a gamble catering for these events as no-one can be sure how many are going to appear on the day. However, following our run of luck, I would like to thank all the marshals who came along and made it such an enjoyable day for all.

Gillian Bull whose patience and perseverance ensured that all the pre-entries were logged and accounted for.

Elizabeth Bryan who made sure that hot drinks were available for all who wanted a cuppa before setting off.

Lesley Nightingale then cooked her now famous, and scrumptious, 'full English' for all the hall marshals after the last runner had departed.

Dansfold (Checkpoint 1): Dave & Pat Challenger, Keith Chesterton, Derek Bowdell, Audrey Stein.

Grayswood (Checkpoint 2): Tony & Louise Cartwright, Peter Saw, Molly Groundsell, Ann Sayer.

Gibbet Hill (Checkpoint 3): Peter Bull, Tim Dawe.

Elstead (Checkpoint 4): Brian Haigh, Caroline Saunders, Bill Grace, Peter Short, Ashley Saunders

Witley Hall (start & finish): Margaret Ackers, Derick Bowdell, Peter & Elaine Edwards, Audrey Stein, Janet Chapman, John Robinson, Molly Groundsell.

Jon Moore, who counted them all out, jogged 16 miles, and then counted them all in.

Peter Short who supervised the car parking, jogged 16 miles and then helped at Elstead.

Reg Chapman who provided every last item of equipment, administered the check sheets, closed all the checkpoints and helped clean the hall at the finish.

Jeff Ellingham who booked the hall and helped all day at the start and at the finish, which included clearing the showers and toilets.

Ann Sayer who registered all the 'on-the-day' entries at the start.

Lesley Nightingale and Don Turner who were there from early on Sunday morning until close down, logging all the entries, noting the retirements, clocking all the finishers and the elapsed times and writing the certificates.

Haery Wickens for making sense of the check sheets and producing a detailed results analysis for us all to peruse after the event.

My thanks to the committees of Chichester Hall Witley, the Sports Pavilion at the King George 5th Playing Fields Dansfold, the Church Hall Grayswood, and the Elstead Youth Centre for their assistance and help.

I hope I haven't missed anyone, if so I apologise

We didn't change the route from previous years, the 25 milers came up against a bit of snow drift at Blackhanger Farm, so I heard afterwards, but there were no doom laden comments about mud! After all, the Punchbowl wouldn't be the same without some claggy bits and I think a lot of you actually enjoy it! At least you know were you stand with it, ... or should that be in it? Its there and you've just got to plough on through it. To quote an old Latin proverb *Solvine Ambulando* Finally, and sincerely, thank you all for coming along and taking part, maybe next time we'll have devised a new route for you

Lost Property 2 Mapsases, 1 Pretzel Headtorch. Claims please within one month

John Lay

Group Programme

Sunday 2nd March 15 miles Start: 9.00am; Pub stop for lunch Leader: Gillian Bull; Tel. 01344 842508	Explorer 145 Bourne CP next to Virginia Water station;	March in the Park GR 000679
Saturday 8th March Choice of three walks from Pendley Manor Hotel, Tring		LDWA agm walks See December Strider for details
Friday 14th March Slide show presentation 8.00pm; Abbots Corner, Abbots Drive, Virginia Water. Tel. 01344 842508 Please advise Gillian if coming		Pyrenees and Tatras
Sunday 23rd March 20 miles Start: 9.00am; Picnic lunch Leader: Chris Haywood; Tel. 01428 722817 Linear walk from Liphook to Rowlands Castle. Return by train to Liphook	Landranger 186 CP at Liphook station;	Rowlands Romp GR 842309
Thursday 3rd April 12 miles Start: 9.00am; Pub stop for lunch Leader: Peter Bull; Tel. 01344 842508	Explorer 133 CP at Gibbet Hill;	Punchbowl Perambulation GR 899358
Sunday 6th April 18 miles Start: 9.30 am; Pub stop for lunch Leader: Jon Moore; Tel. 01932 887206	Explorer 134 CP in village street	Capel Village GR 174403
Wednesday 14th May 7.30pm to 9.00pm; Drummond Arms, Albury	Supper afterwards Please inform the secretary if intending to stay for supper	Planning meeting and supper
Thursday 15th May 16 miles Start: 9.30am; Pub stop for lunch or picnic lunch Leaders: Molly Groundsell; Tel. 01483 762843, Elizabeth Bryan; tel. 01483 776985	Explorer 145 CP at Chantryes	Bramley Ramble GR 004484
Wednesday 18th June 7 miles Start: 6.45pm for 7.00pm prompt; Hot potato supper at finish (offers for deserts welcome) Leaders: Tony & Louise Cartwright; Tel 01483 503768 Please advise Louise if coming	12 East Meads, Ouslow Village, Guildford	Midsummer walk
Thursday 3rd July 20 miles Start: 9.30am; Pub stop for lunch	Explorer 146 to be advised	Brockham Circuit to be advised

Group Programme

Sunday 13th July 20 miles Start: 9.00am; Chichester Railway station, free parking; catch 9.01am to Havant Pub stop for lunch Leaders: Peter & Elaine Edwards; Tel. 01243 262475	A Sea-breeze Saunter
Saturday 19th July 18 miles Explorer 120 Start: 9.30am; CP at Ship Inn, Langstone; at north end of the bridge to Hayling Island GR 719047; Pub stop for lunch, short sea voyage beforehand (bring money for ferry) Leader: Chris Hayward; Tel. 01428 722817	Langstone Looksea
Thursday 24th July 15 miles Landranger 187 Start: 9.30am; Ashurst House, Ashurst Drive, Box Hill GR 198519 Pub stop for lunch Leader: Mike Mardle; Tel. 01737 841682	An Ashurst Ambulation
Sunday 18th August 20 miles Landranger 185 Start: 9.00am; CP at Cheesefoot Head, off A272 via M3 jct 9 GR 528278 Pub stop for lunch Leader: Janet Chapman; Tel 01276 65169	Dowasman Revisited, part 3
Sunday 17th August 20 miles Explorer 160 Start: 9.30am; Oakcroft, Dartnell Avenue, West Byfleet GR 053615 Pub stop for lunch. Along Wey and Basingstoke Canal paths Leader: John Lay; Tel. 01932 346596 Refreshments afterwards, please phone John if planning to come	Wey Navigation
Saturday/Sunday 6/7th September * 30/60 miles Explorer 145, 146, 134, 133 Start: 8.00am; CP Ouslow Village; Overnight accommodation at Whitley Village Hall Pub stops for meals Leader: Tony Cartwright; Tel. 01483 503768	Summits Revisited
Sunday 21st September 12/20 miles; Explorer 145 Start: 9.15am; Bramley Village Hall ENTRIES ON DAY ONLY More information from organisers Organisers: Tony & Louise Cartwright; Tel. 01483 503768	Bramley Kanter
Saturday/Wednesday 27/30th September Start: Saturday pm from Selworthy Area Walker's accommodation at Holincote House, Selworthy, Exmoor The walks programme includes 4 routes to complete extensive coverage of the Exmoor National Park and the Brendon Hills Organiser: Molly Groundsell; Tel. 01483 762843 More information from event organiser	Autumn 4 day Event